



# **Holywell Urban District Council**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

### **Medical Officer of Health**

D. P. W. ROBERTS, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S.,  
L.R.C.P., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

Together with the Annual Report of the

### **Public Health Inspector**

H. L. FIELD, M.A.P.H.I.

FOR THE YEAR

# **1970**





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(D.P.W. ROBERTS, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S.,  
L.R.C.P., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.)

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(H.L.FIELD. M.A.P.H.I.)

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1970



STANDARD BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ADDRESS

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STANDARD BUREAU

(D.P.W. BUREAU, N.Y., C.R.S., N.Y.C.S.,  
P.R.C.P., D.R.S.C., D.R.S.)

STANDARD BUREAU

STANDARD BUREAU

(N.Y.C.S., N.Y.C.S., N.Y.C.S.)

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URBAN DISTRICT OF HOLYWELL

Health Department Offices :

Civic Offices, Coleshill Street, Holywell Tel No. 2772/3  
4. and 5

HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE 1970

Councillor Mrs. R.J. Flaxman  
(Chairman of the Council)

Councillor H.G. Roberts

Councillor R.G. Hughes

Councillor M.E. Parry.

Councillor P.H. Griffiths.

Councillor A.O. Jones.

Councillor Mrs. M.E. Risley

Councillor D.P. Schwarz  
Chairman.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

D.P.W. ROBERTS, M.B. Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,

D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector:

H.L. FIELD, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk:

Mrs. J.A. Barker.

Associated Chief Officers :-

Clerk of the Council :

R. Woodruff, F.C.C.S.

Engineer and Surveyor :

W. Isherwood, C.Eng.,  
M.I. Mun.E., A.I.H.M.

Chief Financial Officer :

F. Long



UNION DISTRICT OF HOLYWELL

Health Department Officers :

Civic Offices, Colwall Street, Holywell Tel No. 2775/3  
A and B

HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE 1970

Councillor Mrs. A.L. Preece  
(Chairman of the Council)

Councillor E.H. Roberts

Councillor H.G. Roberts

Councillor A.O. Jones

Councillor W.E. Hughes

Councillor Mrs. M.E. Halsey

Councillor M.E. Parry

Councillor E.E. Roberts  
Chairman

MUSIC LEADERS STAFF

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Public Health Inspector:

H.D. FINE, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk:

Mrs. J.A. Barker

Associated Civil Officers :-

E. Woodruff, F.C.C.S.

Clerk of the Council :

V. Isherwood, C.Eng.

Engineer and Surveyor :

M.I. Williams, A.I.M.M.

Chief Financial Officer :

E. Jones

HOLYWELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1970

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HOLYWELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my annual report for 1970.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population for the year was 8,850 an increase of 100 over the previous year.

There were 130 births giving a local standardised birthrate of 14.3 per 1000 population compared with the national figure of 16.

Three still births were recorded giving a local still birth rate of 23 per 1000 live births, compared with the national average of 13.

Two infant deaths under 1 year occurred giving a local infant mortality rate of 15 per 1000 births compared with the national figure of 11.7.

Twenty nine cases of measles were notified during the year and I have made reference in the report to the need for parents of children who have not had the disease, and who have not been vaccinated to do so without delay. This advice also applies to protection against polio, measles, diphtheria and whooping cough. If the public wish to have further information would they call and see their family doctor or enquire at the local infant welfare clinic; it is all free and just for the asking.

The Mass X-Ray Unit B visited the area in December, 1970 but the response from the public was poor although on the other hand the analysis report of those examined was very satisfactory.

It was necessary to issue a pasteurization order under Milk and Dairies Regulations 1959 following analysis of a routine sample of raw milk on sale to the public which was found to contain brucella germs. This order remained in force until the milk supply was investigated. Progress was made on the planning and preparation of the new sewage disposal works at Greenfield. I earnestly hope that an early start can be made in the future in the construction of the works as these are urgently necessary.

Panton Place scheme was completed and I am pleased to say that the new tenants have settled in well. Demolition of the property in the Whitford Street, Brynford Street area commenced in late 1970, and it is planned to provide old peoples dwellings with warden accommodation, together with a few houses for sale.

Monitoring of the atmosphere by means of the smoke and sulphur dioxide volumetric analysis situated in the civic offices continued during the year and I am pleased to say that the results were satisfactory for a town of nearly 9,000.

I would like to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council, Council Officials and Staff of the Health Department.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

D.P.W. ROBERTS,

Medical Officer of Health







## GENERAL STATISTICS

Population at mid-year 1970 (Registrar General's estimate)	8,850
Population change compared with previous year (increase of)	100
Number of inhabited properties (end of 1970)	3,225
Number of empty properties (end of 1970)	60
Rateable value of the Urban District at end of 1970	£443,462
Product of penny rate	£1,740
General rate in £	17/6d.
Number of rated premises	3285

## SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE URBAN DISTRICT

Holywell is an old market town pleasantly situated on land rising from the tidal estuary of the Dee, and with a long history of varied industries. The main industry now, is the production of viscose rayon staple at a large factory employing 2,500 persons. Other factories are engaged in paper making, and the weaving of woollen goods, and there are a number of distributive trades. Some residents work in the nearby steel works, and in coal mining.

Since the war there have been a large number of new properties constructed, in the town both in the council and private sector. There has also been a significant redevelopment of the town centre, which has involved the demolition of a large number of the older properties, in the shopping centre area and this has tended to change the appearance of the town and give it a much more modern outlook.





# VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births : Male 67 Female : 63	130
Legitimate Live Births : Male 60 Female : 60	120
Illegitimate Live Births : Male 7 Female : 3	10
Illegitimate Local Rate per 1,000 Live Births	80
National Illegitimate Rate per 1000 Live Births	80
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population	14.7
Birth Rate Comparability Factor	0.97
Birth Rate Standardised	14.3
National Birth Rate per 1,000 population	16.0
Still Births (total)	3
Legitimate Still Births	3
Illegitimate Still Births	-
Local Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births	23
National Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and Still Births	13
Infant Deaths under One year of age	2
Legitimate Infant Deaths under 1 year of age	2
Illegitimate Infant Deaths under One year of age	-
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	15
National Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	18
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	17
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	-
Infant Deaths under 4 Weeks of Age (Neo-natal)	2
Legitimate Infant Deaths under 4 weeks of age	2
Illegitimate Infant Deaths under 4 weeks of age	-
Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	15
National Neo-natal Mortality Rate	12
Total Peri-natal Deaths (still births and deaths under one week combined)	5
Peri-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	38
National Peri-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	23
Deaths in First Week of Life (early neo-natal period)	2
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	15
National Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate	11
Maternal Mortality, Including Abortion :	
Number of Deaths	Nil
Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births	Nil

## DEATHS

Deaths: Male 58 Female 56	114
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	12.9
Comparability Factor	.76
Local Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 population	9.8
National Death Rate for England and Wales	11.7





# POPULATION CHANGES IN THE URBAN DISTRICT

The following table shows the change in population due to migration:-

Year	Mid-year population R.G. estimated figure	Population change during the year	Change in population due to births and deaths only during the year.	Change in population due to migration.
1960	8,360	+40	+31	+9
1961	8,400	+40	+51	-11
1962	8,470	+70	+38	+32
1963	8,470	Nil	+45	-45
1964	8,560	+90	+66	+24
1965	8,580	+20	+54	-34
1966	8,640	+60	-	+60
1967	8,610	-30	+17	-47
1968	8,680	+70	+36	+34
1969	8,750	+70	+42	+28
1970	8,850	+100	+16	+84

## CANCER :

The total number of deaths from cancer was 18, which was an increase of 2 over 1969.

The figures shown below are extracts from the Registrar General's Returns :-

Cancer Deaths :	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Lung	3	4	3	4	6	4	2	5	3	6
Stomach	3	5	3	1	3	2	3	1	3	4
Breast	1	6	1	-	1	2	1	2	3	-
Uterus	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	2
Leukaemia	1	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
Other Sites	8	18	11	11	5	4	10	4	6	6
Total deaths All Sites.....	16	35	18	18	16	12	18	13	16	18

## CORONARY HEART DISEASE :

There were 24 deaths due to coronary heart disease, during 1970 and this is an increase of 6 in the previous year. It has been shown statistically that people who smoke, take little exercise and are overweight, have an increased risk of coronary disease.

The following chart shows the annual deaths from this disease in the district for the past ten years :-

Deaths :	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970.
	22	18	21	18	18	32	19	24	18	24

There has been a significant rise in the deaths due to coronary disease





in this country, and it has been established that there are certain factors linked with the incidence of this disease, and these factors are as follows :-

1. High Blood Pressure.
2. Obesity.
3. Smoking Cigarettes - the more cigarettes smoked - the greater the risk of developing this disease.
4. High Blood Cholesterol.
5. Physical Inactivity.
6. Development of mental stress and less important factors which include heredity and race.

It is hoped that within a few years to come, it will become feasible for the screening of groups of the population at the greatest risk, that is men between the ages of 30 - 45 years and women between the ages of 40 - 55 years and giving advice to those who show the greatest risk of developing the disease. There are certain factors which reduce the odds of developing the disease, these being to reduce smoking, taking more exercise, reducing the intake of sugar and starchy food, and if obese, of making a serious attempt to reduce weight.

#### SCREENING PROCEDURES :

During the past few years, there have been projects for screening the general population in certain selected centres in the country, to ascertain whether mass screening procedure would be at all feasible and practical, in the detection of disease and its treatment and possible prevention.

The diseases that come to mind in this context, are namely :-

Cancer of the Cervix (neck of the womb).  
 Diabetes.  
 High Blood Pressure.  
 Defects of Vision.  
 Hearing Defects.  
 Anaemia.  
 Urinary Infections in Young People.  
 Coronary Heart Disease.

More work needs to be done in the future, before any large scale screening procedure can be set in motion, in particular, information on the levels of normality for the population.

It may be a number of years before screening procedure will be introduced on a mass scale and pending this, the only screening that is being undertaken, on any scale at present, is the detection of blood diseases in new born babies, due to errors of metabolism, which if not treated can cause mental defects, and which now can be successfully treated.

#### INFANT MORTALITY

There were 2 deaths of infants under one year of age, details of which are shown below :-

<u>Age at Death</u>	<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Sex</u>
4 hours	Extreme prematurity	Male
1 day	Extreme prematurity	Male

There were three still births notified.

<u>Age at Death</u>	<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Sex</u>
39 weeks	Twin pregnancy	Male
36 weeks	Severe accidental haemorrhage	Female





TABLE SHOWING VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT

FOR PAST TEN YEARS

Year	Registrar General's mid-year estimate of population	Number of local births per R.G. Returns.	Local crude birth rate per 1,000 population	Local adjusted rate	National birth rate per 1,000 population	Local Deaths - R.G. Return	Crude Death rate per 1,000 population	Adjusted local rate per 1,000 population	National death rate per 1,000 population	Infant deaths : Under one year of age	Local infant mortality rate	National infant mortality rate.
1961	8,400	173	20.59	20.79	17.4	122	14.52	13.21	12.0	4	23.12	21.4
1962	8,470	184	21.72	21.93	18.0	146	17.23	N.A.	11.9	7	38.04	21.6
1963	8,470	174	20.54	19.2	18.2	129	15.23	N.A.	12.2	6	34.38	20.0
1964	8,560	168	19.6	19.0	18.4	102	11.92	N.A.	11.3	-	N.A.	20.0
1965	8,580	172	20.0	19.4	18.0	118	13.7	10.2	11.5	1	5.8	19.0
1966	8,640	133	15.4	14.9	17.7	133	15.4	10.5	11.7	1	7.0	19.0
1967	8,610	125	14.5	14.1	17.2	108	12.5	11.0	11.2	1	8.0	18.3
1968	8,680	145	16.7	16.2	16.9	109	12.6	8.2	11.8	1	7.0	18.3
1969	8,750	159	18.2	17.7	16.3	117	13.4	11.7	11.9	5	31.0	18.0
1970	8,850	130	14.7	14.3	16.0	114	12.9	9.8	11.7	2	15.0	18.0

N.A. Not Available





CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1970 IN THE URBAN DISTRICT OF HOLYWELL.

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S REPORT

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under	AGE IN YEARS									
					1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 and over	
Late Effects of Respiratory T.B.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Other infective and Parasitic diseases	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc.,	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms	M	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	-	-
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Diseases of Nervous System	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Chronic Rheumatic heart Disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Hypertensive Disease	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	9	1	1
	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	5	-

Cont/.....





[illegible]





CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 and over.
Cont...													
All other External Causes	M	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES													
	M	58	2	-	1	-	1	2	3	3	19	19	8
	F	56	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	5	10	36





# INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS DURING 1970

[illegible]





# INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS DURING 1970

	Meningococcal Infection	Infective Hepatitis	Leptospirosis
Under 1 year	1	-	1
1 and 2 Years	1	1	1
3 and 4 Years	1	1	1
5 to 9 Years	1	1	1
10 to 14 Years	1	1	1
15 to 20 Years	1	1	1
21 to 35 Years	1	1	1
36 to 65 Years	1	1	1
Over 65 Years	1	1	1
Age Unknown	1	1	1
at all Ages	1	1	1
Deaths	1	1	1

1	100	100	100
2	100	100	100
3	100	100	100
4	100	100	100
5	100	100	100
6	100	100	100
7	100	100	100
8	100	100	100
9	100	100	100
10	100	100	100
11	100	100	100
12	100	100	100
13	100	100	100
14	100	100	100
15	100	100	100
16	100	100	100
17	100	100	100
18	100	100	100
19	100	100	100
20	100	100	100
21	100	100	100
22	100	100	100
23	100	100	100
24	100	100	100
25	100	100	100
26	100	100	100
27	100	100	100
28	100	100	100
29	100	100	100
30	100	100	100
31	100	100	100
32	100	100	100
33	100	100	100
34	100	100	100
35	100	100	100
36	100	100	100
37	100	100	100
38	100	100	100
39	100	100	100
40	100	100	100
41	100	100	100
42	100	100	100
43	100	100	100
44	100	100	100
45	100	100	100
46	100	100	100
47	100	100	100
48	100	100	100
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88	100	100	100
89	100	100	100
90	100	100	100
91	100	100	100
92	100	100	100
93	100	100	100
94	100	100	100
95	100	100	100
96	100	100	100
97	100	100	100
98	100	100	100
99	100	100	100
100	100	100	100



THE FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS THE TREND OF THE INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE IN THE DISTRICT OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS

DISEASE	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	2	5	2	1	1	1	1
Whooping Cough	-	-	11	24	11	-	12	2	1	2
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	48	28	25	166	27	84	138	66	5	29
Pneumonia	4	1	1	1	5	2	2	2	N.A.	N.A.
Menigeo coccal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	24	1	-	-	5	3	1	2	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	1	5	-	-	1	5	2
Paratyphoid and Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	N.A.	N.A.
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	9	5	9	3	1	1	1	-	-	3
Tuberculosis - Non Respiratory	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	1	-
Erysipelas	-	3	3	3	2	-	-	-	N.A.	N.A.
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	2	1	-
Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leptospirosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Antarax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

N.A. Not Applicable.





## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Twenty cases of measles were notified during the year and it is unfortunate that the public have been slow to respond to the vaccination programme. Protection against the disease is afforded by one injection and there are very few side effects.

Two cases of food poisoning were brought to the attention of the health department, and it was necessary in one instance to stop the person affected attending work whilst suffering from the disease. Tuberculosis still presents problems and three cases were notified in 1970, and all new cases are carefully followed up including contact tracing by the County Visitor for chest diseases. There is still a reservoir of tuberculosis infected people in the community and it is often necessary to keep old cases of tuberculosis under constant supervision, especially when they reach their declining years as the disease often becomes re-activated.

## CHEST X-RAY FACILITIES :

The Mass X-Ray Unit ceased to call at Holywell on a routine basis at the end of 1967.

Listed below is a report from the Mass Radiography Service, by the kind permission of Dr. T.F. Jarman, on the survey carried out in December, 1970 when the Unit visited the town for a few days:-

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Total Number Examined	392	175	217
Total found to be abnormal cases.	4	2	2
(a) Referred to Chest Physician as cases requiring further investigation.	2	1	1
(b) Other abnormalities of the chest.	2	1	1

## Classification of Abnormality

Healed Post Primary Tuberculosis	1	1	-
Pleural thickening or calcification	1	-	1



PROVISION OF SERVICES UNDER THE NATIONAL HEALTH

SERVICES ACT, 1946

The following local services are the responsibility of the Flintshire County Council, and I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health, Dr. G.W. Roberts, for allowing me to give the following details :-

SECTION 22 - CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN - INFANT WELFARE CENTRES :

The Clinic premises are in Park Lane, Holywell and an Infant Welfare Clinic is held every Thursday afternoon from 1.30 p.m. - 4.p.m. There is also an additional Clinic in School Lane, Greenfield, where an Infant Welfare Clinic is held every Tuesday afternoon 1.30 p.m. - 4.p.m.

Welfare foods (vitamin tablets, codliver oil and orange juice) are distributed at these Clinics.

ANTE NATAL CLINICS :

Ante Natal Clinics are held at Park Lane Clinic weekly and are staffed by hospital and nursing personnel, under the direction of the Consultant Obstetrician.

Talks are given to mothers attending these Clinics by the health visitors on childbirth and baby management.

FAMILY PLANNING:

Family planning is available at Flint, Rhyl, Mold, Prestatyn and Connah's Quay.

CERVICAL SMEAR CLINICS :

Clinics are now available by appointment at Connah's Quay, Rhyl, Flint, Mold and Prestatyn for women to attend to have cervical smears taken. Women who wish to avail themselves of this service, should contact their own general practitioner or call at the Infant Welfare Clinic.

DENTAL CARE OF EXPECTANT MOTHERS :

This is carried out by the school dental staff of the County Council, and the service is free during the period of pregnancy and up to one year after the birth of the baby. It is regrettable that more mothers do not take advantage of these facilities.

SECTION 23 - MIDWIFERY SERVICES :

There are two midwives, who are also district nurses, working in the area, also two part-time nurses, and they are responsible for the ante natal care, delivery and post natal surveillance of these patients, under the general direction of the patient's doctor.

SECTION 24 - HEALTH VISITORS :

There are two full-time health visitors who are responsible for giving advice to families on all aspects of health education. These duties have increased of late due to the ever expanding needs of the community, especially the older members. Their duties are complimentary to the work of the general practitioners.

SECTION 25 - HOME NURSING SERVICES :

This very valuable provision is carried out by the district nurses, who are usually midwives, and the demands of the service increase yearly as the proportion of old people rises in the community.





## SECTION 26 - VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

### Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis

Immunization against these diseases is given, usually by a course of injections commencing at 4 months and repeated at 6 months and finally at 10 months. The poliomyelitis vaccine is given by the oral route whilst the vaccine for the diseases is given by injection and both are given simultaneously. It is very important that ALL infants have protection against these diseases and this can be given at the infant welfare clinic or by the family doctor.

#### Smallpox Vaccination.

Vaccination is available to babies over the age of one provided there are no medical contra indications.

#### Measles.

Immunization is offered to all babies after completion of the course of immunization against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and polio, and consists of one injection with very few reactions. It is to be regretted that the acceptance rate is still below a level which can be considered satisfactory.

#### Rubella

All fourteen year old children are eligible to be vaccinated against rubella (german measles) and it is a great pity that less than one third of these children who have not had the disease naturally are not protected. Should a woman who is pregnant contract the infection, especially in the first three months of pregnancy, there is a serious risk to the health of the unborn child. Vaccination consists of 1 injection and there are very few reactions.

## SECTION 27 - AMBULANCES

The ambulance service is radio controlled and administered from the headquarters at Mold. A local station is situated in Holywell.

## MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBNORMALITY

Visits are paid by mental welfare officers of the County Council to mentally ill patients who require advice and help.

Subnormal children who cannot be educated in an ordinary school, and who are not severely retarded are admitted to the Training Centre at 'Tirionfa', Rhuddlan. There they receive training to the limits of their capabilities. There is also an Adult Training Centre, at Greenfield for men and women.

## VENERAL DISEASE :

Treatment is available at the following special clinics :-

H.M. Stanley Hospital. St. Asaph.

Males and Females - Tuesday, 5.30 p.m. - 7.00 p.m.

Chester Royal Infirmary

Males - Wednesday 5.00 p.m. - 7.00 p.m. Saturday 11.a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

Females - Monday 5.00 p.m. - 7.00 p.m. Thursday 5.00 p.m. - 7.00 p.m.

Treatment is confidential and free, inclusive of travelling expenses.

## NURSING HOMES :

The following nursing home is registered with the County Council, and is inspected periodically :- Glyn Abbott, Bagillt Road, Holywell.





## WELFARE HOMES :

Persons who are unable to look after themselves satisfactorily may be admitted to County Council Homes which are situated at :- Y Gorlan, Rhyl; The Lawns, Rhyl; Part of the Womens Convalescent Home, Carr Holme, Prestatyn; Park House, Prestatyn; Hafad Glyn, Shotton, and Mold.

A new home was opened in 1970 at Prestatyn and construction commenced on another new home at Holywell and further new homes are planned at Flint and Overton.

## SECTION 47 - NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT. 1948

This section conveys powers on District Councils to remove persons who are aged, infirm, or suffering from chronic diseases, and are living in insanitary conditions, are unable to look after themselves and are not receiving adequate care and attention from others. In 1970 it was not necessary to take any legal action. Legal action is only taken as a last resort and every effort is made to persuade people to accept advice and treatment for their benefit. The demands of the aged increase annually as the proportion of this group within the population rises. This problem of the care of the aged is aggravated by relatives often living considerable distances away, being unable or unwilling for various reasons, to help in the care of their next of kin.

A number of visits were made to cases of people in Holywell who were living in unsatisfactory conditions and arrangements were made for their removal to hospital, either on a temporary or permanent basis.

## PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE :

The local public health laboratory is at Chester (Dr. P. Poole, is the Director) and bacteriological examination of specimens sent from the Urban District are examined here. The Staff have been most co-operative and my gratitude is extended to them for their advice and help throughout the year.

## FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960 :

Routine inspections of food premises were maintained, and there are 37 food businesses and 29 catering businesses, all of which comply with the requirements of Regulations 16 and 19.

There is one poultry processing business dealing with about 9,000 birds a year, mostly hens, which is visited regularly. Nearly 2% of the birds were rejected as unfit for human consumption, giving a total weight of 620 lbs. The premises are in an area scheduled for re-development, and the business closed down at the end of the year.

## HOUSING :

During the year the following units of housing accommodation were provided in the town :-

New houses and flats provided by the Council	29
Private properties	30

Since the war the Council have built 867 houses, bungalows and flats, also 387 private dwellings have been built.



The table below indicates the yearly totals of new housing construction in the town over the past ten years :-

<u>Year</u>	<u>New Council Houses Bungalows or Flats</u>	<u>New Private Houses or Bungalows</u>	<u>Number of Inhabited Properties in Town</u>
1970	29	30	3164
1969	-	28	3133
1968	107	20	3179
1967	74	15	2994
1966	59	9	2590
1965	38	32	2571
1964	-	57	2552
1963	-	21	2526
1962	20	16	2660
1961	77	27	2576

The waiting list for council accommodation at the end of 1970 was as follows:-

Number of families in general list      approximately      160

Number of persons waiting for old  
persons accommodation      approximately      40

#### WATER SUPPLY :

There is an efficient and abundant supply of bacteriologically and chemically pure water which is supplied to this area by the Alwen Reservoir. The Water Engineer and the staff of the Central Flintshire Water Board normally carry out the analysis of the water. Eight samples were taken during the year and six were satisfactory, and when otherwise appropriate action was taken to have the abnormality rectified.

The St. Winefride's Well is supplied with water from an addit fed by an underground water pipe. Samples of the water were sent to the Public Health Laboratory for analysis at periodic intervals.

#### Chemical Analysis of sample of water from Public Water Supply in Holywell in 1970.

Colour. Hazen Units	15
Turbidity F.E. Scale	2
pH	8.10
Electrical Conductivity Micromhos/ cm	120
Chloride as Cl	10
Total Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	18
Carbonate Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	10
Non-Carbonate Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	12
Total Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	22
Calcium as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	24
Magnesium as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	8

#### Bacteriological Examination :

Coliform count/100 mls	0
E. Coli count/100 mls	0
Plate Count 1 Day at 37°C	0
Plate Count 3 Days at 22°C	Nil
Clostridium Welchii/20 ml	Nil
Remarks : Bacteriologically satisfactory.	

#### Swimming Baths

Regular samples were taken of the water in the new Swimming Baths. Of the fifty seven water samples submitted for analysis, only one was found to be slightly sub-standard.





### MILK SUPPLY :

The responsibility for the routine sampling of milk rests with the County Council Health Department and close co-operation is maintained between the County Council Health Department and Mr. Field.

The Health Department continued to carry out a considerable amount of work during the year, in the taking of samples of milk for bacteriological analysis in connection with the search for brucella abortus organisms in unpasteurised milk.

It was necessary to issue a pasteurization order during the year under the Milk and Dairies Regulation 1959 following information from the laboratory that a sample of raw milk being sold to the public contained brucella germs. This order remained in force until the milk supply had been investigated, and subsequent tests were satisfactory.

### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE :

There are no cesspools or pail closets in the district but there were a few houses whose drainage was into septic tanks and a scheme was carried through in 1970 for the connection of most of these properties to main drainage.

There is no treatment of the town sewage which is discharged into a muddy stream, which flows into the Dee, at the north west boundary of Courtaulds works.

Further work was carried out on the planning of a new disposal works, and this of course has to be done in conjunction with other authorities.

It is to be hoped that an early start will be made on the construction of new works.

There is URGENT need to press on at the UTMOST SPEED with this work





## FOOD HYGIENE

The refrigerator has now become accepted as a standard part of the equipment of a kitchen, and listed below is a table showing how long various foods should be kept either in a refrigerator or a cool larder before the quality and safety of the food is affected.

Food		Refrigerator 38 - 42°F	Cool Larder 45° - 55° F
<u>Meat</u>			
Raw	{ Sausage Meat	2 - 3 days	1 - 2 days
Cooked -	Meat Pies Cooked sausages Prepared meals	2 days	1 day
Milk		3 - 4 days	2 days
Cream		3 - 4 days	1 day
Milk puddings		2 days	1 day
Fish - Raw		2 - 3 days	1 day
Baby food (opened)		1 day	use immediately
Eggs (shell)		12 days	about 4 days
Stock, soup, gravy		2 days	use as soon as possible.

Frozen foods can be kept in a frozen food compartment for up to 1 week if the temperature is about 21° F and up to 1 month if at 12°F, and up to 3 months if at 0°F. The temperature of the frozen food compartment should be checked with a thermometer but most modern refrigerators have an asterisk on the door of the compartment. One asterisk indicates that food can be kept for up to 1 week, two asterisks implies safe storage for 1 month and three asterisks indicate storage for 3 months.

### DE-FROSTING AND COOKING OF CHICKENS.

1. Deep-frozen chickens should be thawed for about 8 hours on an average, at room temperature.
2. Average weight chickens should be roasted at 400°F for 2 hours before the temperature of the oven is reduced.
3. Spit cooking of chickens requires 30 minutes cooking per lb. which means about 2½ hours is needed for the average chicken at 400°F.
4. All birds must be cooled as rapidly as possible after cooking, preferably within 3 hours, to a temperature of about 40°F and placed in a refrigerator.

### FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1970

New food hygiene regulations were introduced in 1970 and the principle requirements of these regulations are as follows:-

1. The cleanliness of premises used for the purposes of food business and of the equipment used shall be of the highest order.
2. Any person handling open food must wear clean and washable clothing.
3. A person who engages in the handling of food shall
  - (a) keep as clean as may be reasonably practical all parts of his person and his clothing which are liable to come into contact with the food;
  - (b) keep all open cuts or abrasions covered with a suitable water-proof dressing.
  - (c) refrain from spitting;
  - (d) refrain from the use of tobacco whilst working in food premises.





## FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1970

4. All food to be protected from risk of contamination and should not be placed on any forecourt or yard lower than 18" from the ground unless adequately protected from risk of contamination.
5. If a person engaged in food handling becomes aware that he is suffering from or is a carrier of enteric, salmonella, bacillary dysentery or staphylococcal infections, he must directly, or through his employer, inform the local medical officer of health.
6. Persons engaged in the handling of food must not use wrapping material, including printed material not specially designed for the purpose, a container, which is not clean or which is liable to contaminate the food, other than uncooked vegetables or unplucked game or poultry.
7. Every food premises must have sufficient wash hand basins for the use of all persons engaged in the handling of food and each wash basin must have a supply of hot and cold water; where no open food is handled, of cold water; and every wash hand basin must have an adequate supply of soap and clean towels. There shall also be provided facilities for the washing of equipment used in the preparation of food.
8. All food rooms must have sufficient lighting and ventilation and no food room shall be used as a sleeping place. All food rooms shall be kept clean in good state of repair.
9. Food consisting of:- All meat, fish, gravy or imitation cream or prepared from or containing these substances or any egg or milk brought into a food premises, on or from which is carried on a catering business shall, if not already at a temperature of 145° F (62.7°C) or above on the one hand, or below 50°F (10°C) on the other hand, be brought to one or other of these temperatures without any avoidable delay after arrival.

(Extract from Regulations)

### PRE COOKED FROZEN FOODS.

The Department of Health & Social Security have recently issued a very useful guide on pre-cooked frozen foods. Listed below is an extract from the booklet.

1. Pre-cooked frozen foods are cooked foods that have been frozen rapidly by plate or blast freeze and are stored at minus 18°C (0°F) or below.
2. The following principles must be adhered to:-
  - (a) Food that has been issued for consumption and has thawed, either partially or completely, must not be allowed back to the freezers or to the deep freeze stores.
  - (b) Final heating must immediately follow removal from frozen or refrigerated food store.
  - (c) The food must be eaten as soon as possible after the final heating.
3. Pre-cooked frozen food should be stored at 0°F and the shelf life is approximately 8 weeks.
4. Great care is required in the final heating to ensure that the food is not overheated, which can impair the nutritive value and palatability. Food that has been heated and subsequently allowed to cool should not be re-heated.





PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my eighth Annual Report for 1970.

This year is perhaps memorable for the strike action taken in October by the manual workers employed by the Council, as part of the national movement. We were fortunate that the withdrawal of labour was for relatively short periods, because the rapid deterioration of conditions in the Town clearly indicated the importance of their work.

There was co-operation in an anti-litter campaign initiated by the Countryside Commission. The campaign involved all the schools in various projects including the design of anti-litter posters. Chairman of the Council, Councillor Mrs.R.J. Flaxman opened an exhibition of the posters and presented prizes for the winning designs.

I would like to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council, and the Medical Officer of Health for their support and interest, and all members of the staff for their ready help and co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

H.L. FIELD.

Public Health Inspector.





## PARTICULARS OF NOTICES AND INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR :

Visits made in connection with public health matters were as follows:-

<u>NATURE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
Visits and re-visits to premises following complaints	76
No access	64
Inspections under the Housing Acts	311
Refuse collection and disposal	241
Inspections of slaughterhouses	19
Visits to slaughterhouses	457
Visits to food premises	47
Inspections of foodstuffs	33
Water supplies	33
Milk supplies	11
Caravans	3
Infectious diseases	18
Swimming Baths	36
Inspections under the Civic Amenities Act	56
Mineshafts	5
Atmospheric pollution	31
Miscellaneous	80
Interviews	152

## SERVICE OF NOTICES :

<u>Informal</u>	<u>Formal</u>	<u>Reasons for Notices</u>	<u>Result.</u>
32	Nil	Nuisances	Abated

Number of dwellinghouses in which repairs were carried out in consequence of formal and informal action - 41.

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL :

Early in the year, the Council decided to place all Council accommodation in the refuse sack system. This decision was taken as a result of successful pilot schemes on newly constructed houses. To avoid unnecessary expenditure on new containers, plastic bin liners have been introduced for use in the existing dustbins, and as the latter wear out, they are replaced by sack containers constructed of plastic. This system has proved to be most beneficial, and gradual extension to all properties is anticipated during the next few years.

A new 35 cubic yard refuse vehicle was brought into use, and both the refuse collection service and the controlled tipping have operated satisfactorily.

It appears likely that a detailed Works Study Report will be presented in the near future, on the operation of this service.

## HOUSING :

During the year 11 unfit houses were demolished, and 7 families comprising a total of 9 persons were moved from sub-standard houses to Council owned accommodation.

There were thirty four applications for Qualification Certificates under the Housing Act, 1969, resulting in repairs being effected to most of the houses.



## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD :

Routine inspections of food premises were maintained and the following complaints were received from members of the public :-

<u>Condition</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
Hair in meat and potato pie	Referred to nearby local authority
Mouldy crumpets	These complaints were a result of inadequate supervision at a local store which closed down at the end of the year.
Mouldy pastry	
Mould on baby food	

## MEAT INSPECTION

During the year the throughput continued to increase in the local slaughterhouse. The regular week-end meat inspection service was continued.

## CARCASES INSPECTED AND MEAT CONDEMNED

A total of 18 cwts., 22lbs. of meat and offal was condemned as being unfit for human consumption.

	<u>Cattle</u> <u>Excluding</u> <u>Cows</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u> <u>and</u> <u>Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
Number killed	1277	3	13	18,136	2,544
Number <u>Not</u> Inspected	-	-	-	-	-
<u>All diseases except</u> <u>Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcase condemned	-	1	-	7	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	63	-	1	199	41
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticerci</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to refrigeration	2	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-





## UN SOUND FOOD - 1970

Various foodstuffs totalling 2 cwts. 56 lbs., in weight were found to be unfit for human consumption and were destroyed after voluntary surrender.

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

The administration of this Act continued, and there were two reported accidents :-

<u>Number of premises registered</u>	<u>Number of persons employed</u>	
Offices	20	118
Retail Shops	90	374
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	4	33
Catering Facilites	6	21
Fuel Storage Depots	1	1
<u>121</u>	<u>547</u>	Males 189 Females 358

## STORAGE OF PETROLEUM SPIRIT :

Licences were issued in respect of 15 premises where petroleum spirit is stored. Excellent co-operation is received from the Officers of the County Fire Service, in inspections, and testing of equipment.

## Factories (1) - Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health, 1970

<u>Premises</u>	<u>M/C Line</u>	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>Number of Insp.</u>	<u>Written Notices</u>	<u>Occupier Prosecuted</u>
(1) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	(2) 1	(3) 7	(4) 5	(5) -	(6) -
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the local authority.	2	34	25	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the local authority (ex- cluding outworkers premises.	3	-	-	-	-
TOTAL :-		41	30	-	-





(2) Cases in which defects were found :-

	<u>M/C Line</u>	<u>Number of Cases in which defects were found</u>				<u>Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted.</u>
		<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied.</u>	<u>to H M.I.</u>	<u>by H M.I.</u>	
<u>Want of Cleanliness S.I.</u>	4	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Overcrowding S.2</u>	5	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Unreasonable Temperature S.3.</u>	6	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Inadequate Ventilation S.4.</u>	7	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Ineffective Drainage of Floor S.6</u>	8	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Sanitary Conveniences S.7</u>						
(a) Insufficient	9	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	11	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Other offences against THE ACT (not including offences relating to outwork).</u>	12	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL :-</b>		-	-	-	-	-

Factories Act 1961 - Part VIII. Section 133 :

Outworkers : There were no notifications of outworkers in the Holywell Urban Area.



## Survey of Air Pollution

The apparatus installed in the Civic Offices continued to supply daily readings of the amount of smoke and sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere. The detailed information was supplied monthly to the Warren Springs Laboratory of the Ministry of Technology for inclusion in the National statistics.

The figures for Holywell are given below :-

<u>Smoke</u>		<u>SO</u> <u>Micrograms/Cu.M.<sup>2</sup></u>		<u>Ratio</u>
<u>Average</u>	<u>Highest Day</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Highest Day</u>	
January	40	170	38	138 1.24
February	41	144	24	106 1.71
March	Machine out of action			
April	8	19	31	59 0.26
May	Machine out of action			
June	Machine out of action			
July	Machine out of action			
August	Machine out of action			
September	6	20	6	19 0.00
October	8	26	12	25 0.67
November	16	42	12	27 1.33
December	19	66	13	30 1.46

To put these figures in perspective an average winter smoke concentration of less than 100 ug/m<sup>3</sup> of sulphur dioxide are considered to be conditions giving little danger to health.









